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**2003 NEBRASKA
ANNUAL REPORT**

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

**THE \$85 MILLION COMMITMENT
TO RURAL NEBRASKA**



JIM BARR, NEBRASKA STATE DIRECTOR

**NEBRASKA
USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT
HOME PAGE:
www.rurdev.usda.gov/ne**

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Over \$85 million delivered to Nebraska communities, utilities, organizations, businesses, and individuals in Fiscal Year (FY) 2003:

Community Facility Direct Loans	\$2,480,000
Community Facility Grants	\$1,002,192
Direct Homeownership Loans	\$7,697,228
Guaranteed Homeownership Loans	\$38,104,581
Home Repair Loans	\$384,612
Home Repair Grants	\$366,342
Direct Rural Rental Housing Loans and Grant	\$309,149
Guaranteed Rural Rental Housing Loans	\$2,340,000
Rental Assistance	\$5,887,577
Water and Environmental Loans	\$6,435,800
Water and Environmental Grants	\$4,110,205
Predevelopment Planning Grant	\$14,325
Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant	\$153,300
Telecommunications Guaranteed Loan and Infrastructure	\$1,958,000
Broadband Loan	\$2,500,000
Community Connect Broadband Grants	\$297,276
Weather Radio Transmitter Grant	\$56,376
Rural Electrification Loan	\$3,987,000
Rural Business Opportunity Grants	\$114,637
Rural Business Enterprise Grants	\$553,207
Rural Economic Development Grant	\$200,000
Intermediary Relending Loan Program	\$750,000
Business and Industry Guaranteed Loans	\$2,972,000
Rural Cooperative Development Grant	\$328,826
Value-Added Agricultural Product Market Development Grants	\$1,626,055
Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Grants	\$177,654
FY03 COMMITMENT TO RURAL NEBRASKA*	\$84,806,342

LEVERAGING federal, state and local dollars allowed for a greater number of rural Nebraska residents and communities to be served.

DIRECT COMMUNITY FACILITY LOANS AND COMMUNITY FACILITY GRANTS construct, enlarge, extend or otherwise improve community facilities that provide essential services and purchase needed equipment in rural areas. ***\$2.5M direct loans along with \$1M in grants provided for 31 essential community facility projects assisting over 26 rural communities.**

DIRECT HOMEOWNERSHIP LOANS assist very-low and low-income rural residents to purchase, construct, repair or rehabilitate, or relocate a single family home. **GUARANTEED HOMEOWNERSHIP LOANS** guarantee loans orginated by local approved lenders to eligible moderate to low-income residents for purchase/repair or construction of a single family rural dwelling. ***\$45.8M assisted 720 households to become rural homeowners.**

HOME REPAIR LOANS AND GRANTS provide financing for necessary repairs to rural owner-occupied homes of very low income homeowners. ***\$751K helped 140 rural homeowners make essential home repairs.**

DIRECT RURAL RENTAL HOUSING LOANS provide financing to eligible applicants and entities for construction of economically designed and constructed rural rental housing and for repairs/rehab to existing rural rental housing. ***\$212K equity loans and \$20K grant assisted in transfer of ownership of 3 rural rental housing complexes for continuation of 24 units. \$77K provided repairs to 8 units of existing rural rental housing.**

GUARANTEED RURAL RENTAL HOUSING LOANS are made by qualified lenders to eligible applicants to construct new or rehabilitate existing rural rental apartment-housing units with USDA guaranteeing the loan. ***\$2.3M in guarantees provided 72 units of new rural rental housing for rural residents.**

RENTAL ASSISTANCE provides rent subsidies to individual residents of RHS financed multi-family housing complexes to ensure that very low and low-income residents have affordable rent payments. ***\$5.9M assisted 2,388 tenants.**

WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL LOANS AND GRANTS develop and repair drinking water and sanitary sewer systems, including solid waste disposal and storm drainage in rural areas. ***\$6.4M in loans and \$4.1M in grants provided for 16 water projects and 4 sewer projects.**

PREDEVELOPMENT PLANNING GRANTS assist in paying costs associated with developing applications for proposed water or wastewater projects. ***14K assisted in developing 1 water and 2 wastewater applications.**

DISTANCE LEARNING AND TELEMEDICINE GRANTS allow for technology equipment and facilities that provide rural schools, libraries, hospitals and medical clinics with distance learning and/or telemedicine capabilities. ***\$153K provided for 1 distance learning project.**

TELECOMMUNICATIONS GUARANTEED LOANS AND INFRASTRUCTURE meet the needs and demands for rural telephone area coverage and provide a source of long-term financing to build rural telecommunications infrastructure. Guaranteed loans back funds provided by commercial lenders. ***\$2M guarantee brought new and improved services to subscribers.**

BROADBAND LOANS finance broadband and other advanced services. Telephone lines constructed since 1995 with USDA financing are capable of providing broadband service using digital subscriber loop (DSL) technology. ***\$2.5M loan provided new and improved services to subscribers.**

COMMUNITY CONNECT BROADBAND GRANTS provide broadband transmission service to rural schools, libraries, education centers, health care providers, law enforcement agencies, public safety organizations, residents and businesses. Rural, economically-challenged communities are targeted. ***\$297K delivered broadband service capability to 4,300 rural residents.**

WEATHER RADIO TRANSMITTER GRANTS finance the installation of new transmitters to extend the coverage of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s Weather Radio system into rural areas. ***\$56K provided for transmitters in rural Nebraska.**

RURAL ELECTRIFICATION LOANS provide leadership and capital to upgrade, expand, maintain and replace rural electric infrastructure. ***\$4M provided to 1 electric association to serve 160 new consumers, construct 15 miles of distribution line, and make system improvements.**

RURAL BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY GRANTS provide for economic development planning, technical assistance and training in rural areas. ***\$115K provided for 2 marketing studies and 1 economic development technical assistance program.**

RURAL BUSINESS ENTERPRISE GRANTS facilitate and finance development of small and emerging private business enterprises in rural areas. ***\$553K assisted 11 projects for training, technical assistance, a business incubator, microenterprise project, business center, computer technology, identifying markets and product opportunities and a feasibility study.**

RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GRANTS are available to electric and telephone utilities financed by the Rural Utilities Service (RUS), to promote sustainable rural economic development and job creation projects. ***\$200K expanded and renovated a health care clinic.**

INTERMEDIARY RELENDING PROGRAM is utilized to finance business facilities and community development projects. ***750K provided for working capital, inventory, equipment, franchise fees, fixed assets, business expansion or startup to an 11 county area.**

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY GUARANTEED LOANS guarantee commercial loans for business and industrial development to create and maintain employment, expand, and to improve economic climate. ***\$3M assisted 5 businesses through existing business acquisitions, business expansion and the securing of more favorable rates and terms.**

RURAL COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT GRANTS establish and operate centers for rural technology or cooperative development to assist with cooperative start-up, expansion, and operations. ***\$329K to Nebraska Cooperative Development Center for services to strengthen cooperative development.**

VALUE-ADDED AGRICULTURAL PRODUCT MARKET DEVELOPMENT GRANTS help producers expand customer base for their products/commodities resulting in a greater portion of revenues from value-added activity being available to the producer. ***\$1.6M assisted 12 producer groups in agricultural ventures.**

RENEWABLE ENERGY AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY GRANTS are provided to farmers, ranchers and rural small businesses to purchase renewable energy systems and make energy efficiency improvements. ***\$178K provided for 3 renewable energy and 3 energy efficiency projects.**